

# Single Note Riffs

It is not unusual to hear a single note riff that goes with the chords played in a blues tune. This line may be the same as the song's bass line. Sometimes a riff will contain both single notes and chords. Here are some common riffs that incorporate open notes. Practicing these examples will help develop your picking. For single note runs, alternate down-up picking in the following examples. The fingering is given below.

**E7** 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &  
 p v p v p v p v

repeat previous phrase

*CD 3 TRACK 5*

**A7** **E7**

**B7** **A7** **E7** **B7**

The example above is a blues shuffle. The example below has a straight feel. Please listen to the CD track in order to better understand the timing of this example.

**E7** p v p

*CD 3 TRACK 6*

**A7** p v p **E7** Simile \*

**B7** p v p **A7** Simile **E7** **B7**

\*If you see "simile" and slashes in the bar, play the same riff as you played for this chord before.